



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

9010

Ser N6N7/ 5U916276

23 Dec 05

From: Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Warfare Requirements and Programs) (N6/N7)

Subj: REQUIREMENT FOR OPEN ARCHITECTURE (OA) IMPLEMENTATION

Ref: (a) ASN(RDA) Memorandum on Naval Open Architecture Scope and Responsibilities dated 05 August 04

Encl: (1) OA Enterprise Team

1. **Purpose**. This letter establishes the requirement to implement Open Architecture (OA) principles across the Navy Enterprise. To deliver timely, affordable, interoperable warfighting capability to the fleet, made sustainable by the flexible integration of emerging capabilities, we must incorporate OA processes and business practices now.

2. **Background**. Warfare systems include hardware, software and people. Human factors, (i.e. such as training, education and doctrine) factor heavily in warfighting effectiveness. Naval OA transformation must match the rapid evolution in commercial and military technology. Not only must we shorten the kill chain across the family of systems; we must also shorten the time and cost it takes to deliver capability improvements. Our current process takes nearly a decade, costs hundreds of millions of dollars and delivers products that are commercially obsolete and have only incremental improvements in warfighting capability. That is not good enough, and must change in POM08. Acquisition processes and business practices must transition now in order to support POM 08 and implement agile changes that support rapidly evolving requirements.

OA Principles include:

a. Modular design and design disclosure to permit evolutionary design, technology insertion, competitive innovation, and alternative competitive approaches from multiple qualified sources.

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b. Reusable application software, selected through open competition of 'best of breed' candidates, reviewed by subject matter expert peers and based on data-driven analyses and experimentation to meet operational requirements. Design disclosure must be made available for evolutionary improvement to all qualified sources.

c. Interoperable joint warfighting applications and secure information exchange using common services (e.g. common time reference), common warfighting applications (e.g. OA track manager) and information assurance as intrinsic design elements.

d. Life cycle affordability including system design, development, delivery and support while mitigating COTS obsolescence by exploiting the Rapid Capability Insertion Process/Advanced Processor Build (RCIP/APB) methodology.

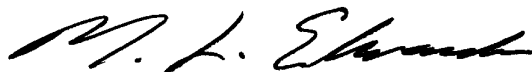
e. Encouraging competition and collaboration through development of alternative solutions and sources.

3. **OA Requirements and Actions.** OA principles shall be incorporated into all Navy System requirements. Reference (a) describes policy and established the Open Architecture Enterprise Team (OAET). N76 shall represent N6/N7 on the OAET and all N6/N7 Division Directors shall appoint O-6 representatives to an OA Council (OAC), chaired by N766, to work with the OAET in meeting these requirements.

a. The OAC will convene as required to communicate Naval requirements and POM/PR guidance to the acquisition community.

b. Enclosure (1) contains near-term guidance for PEOs, the OAC and the OAET, in support of POM08 planning. I plan to issue additional guidance supporting additional enterprise efforts such as OA/FORCEnet risk reduction testing, RCIP, and OA initiatives such as Common Network Interface (CNI).

4. **Effective Date.** Effective upon receipt.



M. J. EDWARDS
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

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